

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A cowl for use in a fly fishing rod assembly, the fly fishing assembly including a reel and an elongated rod, having a tip end, a butt end spaced from the tip end, and a handle region located between the tip end and the butt end, the rod including: 1) a reel seat body on one end of the rod for receiving the reel, the reel seat body located between the handle region and the butt end and having a bottom engaging the reel and a top and sides, a reel on the bottom of the reel seat body, an up locking reel lock for locking a first end of the reel on the reel seat body, a fixed ring for locking a second end of the reel on the reel seat body, a rod handle located opposite the bottom; 2) a fixed reel lock component located adjacent the handle region; and 3) a moveable reel lock component located proximate the butt end of the rod, said cowl comprising:

a semi-cylindrical body having top and side surfaces adapted to be joined with the rod handle, said semi-cylindrical body adapted to partially surround portions of the reel seat body adjacent the reel and extend toward the butt end of the rod past the fixed ring reel lock component toward the up locking moveable reel lock component thereby covering a portion of the reel seat body.

2. **(Previously Presented)** A cowl according to claim 1, wherein said top surface of said semi-cylindrical body and said side surfaces of said semi-cylindrical body have a convex trailing end and convex bottom edges, respectively.

3. **(Withdrawn)** A cowl according to claim 2, further comprising a flange extending between said convex side edges adjacent the reel, wherein said flange prevents sliding of the hand of a user against the reel.

4. **(Withdrawn)** A cowl according to claim 3, wherein said cowl is adapted to be removably joined with the rod handle.

5. **(Currently Amended)** A fly fishing rod handle for use in a fly fishing rod assembly, the fly fishing assembly including a reel and an elongated rod, having a tip end, a butt end spaced from the tip end, and a handle region located between the tip end and the butt end, the rod

including: 1) a reel seat body located between the handle region and the butt end and having a bottom engaging the reel, and a top and sides on one end of the rod for receiving the reel, a reel on the bottom of the reel seat body, an up-locking reel lock for locking one end of the reel on the reel seat body, a fixed ring for locking a second end of the reel on the reel seat body located opposite the bottom; 2) a fixed reel lock component located adjacent the handle region; and 3) a moveable reel lock component located proximate the butt end of the rod, said fly fishing rod handle comprising:

an elongated sleeve configured to be secured to the rod in the handle region; and
a semi-cylindrical cowl having top and side surfaces, said semi-cylindrical cowl joined with said elongated sleeve, said semi-cylindrical cowl adapted to (i) extend past the fixed ring reel lock component toward the up-locking moveable reel lock component, and (ii) cover substantially all of the top of the reel seat body.

6. (Previously Presented) A fly fishing rod handle according to claim 5, wherein said top surface of said semi-cylindrical body and said side surfaces of said semi-cylindrical body have a convex trailing end and convex bottom edges, respectively.

7. (Withdrawn) A fly fishing rod handle according to claim 6, further comprising a flange extending between said convex side edges adjacent the reel, wherein said flange prevents sliding of the hand of a user against the reel.

8. (Original) A fly fishing rod handle according to claim 5, wherein said cowl is adapted to be removably joined with the rod handle.

9. (Currently Amended) A cowl attachment for use in a fly fishing rod assembly having a butt end and including a fixed ring reel lock component distal from the butt end, a moveable reel lock component located proximate the butt end, and a reel seat body, and an up-locking reel lock extending between the fixed reel lock component and the moveable reel lock component, said cowl attachment comprising:

a semi-cylindrical body at least partially surrounding portions of the fixed ring reel lock component and the reel seat body, extending past the fixed ring reel lock component toward the

up lockingmoveable reel lock component, and covering at least a portion of the reel seat body when the said semi-cylindrical body is positioned on the fixed ring and the reel seat body properly secured to the fly fishing rod.

10. **(Previously Presented)** A cowl attachment according to claim 9, wherein said semi-cylindrical body includes a top surface and side surfaces having a convex trailing end and convex bottom edges, respectively.

11. **(Withdrawn)** A cowl attachment according to claim 10, further comprising a flange extending between said convex side edges adjacent the reel, wherein said flange prevents sliding of the hand of a user against the fly fishing reel.

12. **(Original)** A cowl attachment according to claim 9, wherein said cowl is adapted to be removably joined with a fly fishing rod handle.

13. **(Withdrawn)** A cowl attachment according to claim 11, wherein said flange is removably attached with said cowl attachment.